



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held May 27, 2008, the Board took the following action:

29-B

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Molina:

“The death of a child to whom the County provided services is always a tragedy. In the aftermath of such a death, the County conducts investigations in order to determine what went wrong and to make policy changes, if necessary, to hopefully prevent such tragedies from occurring again. The Board of Supervisors sets County policy and directs the conduct of County operations. For the Board to effectively respond to child deaths it must be able to access the records of the deceased child(ren).

“Current pending legislation, Assembly Bill 2904 (Hayashi), would restrict the Board’s current access to the juvenile court records and any other records of involved County Departments and agencies when a child dies in the County. The legislation would require a finding of abuse or neglect to be made by the Department of Children and Family Services, law enforcement or the County Coroner before the Board could have any access. In addition, the legislation would only allow the Board to have access to these records as a body meeting in Closed Session.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Chief Executive Officer was directed to work with County Counsel to:

1. Draft amendments to Assembly Bill 2904 that remove the restriction that a finding of abuse or neglect be made prior to the Board having access to case information as well as the requirement that the Board meet as a whole and in Closed Session when reviewing case information; and

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29-B (Continued)

2. Draft a five-signature letter requesting that the bill be amended as described above, and that if the County's proposed amendments are not accepted, Los Angeles County opposes this legislation.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

Chief Executive Officer

County Counsel

Director of Children and Family Services